



Fact File

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HISTORY – 18TH MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE



The 18th Military Police Brigade is the most highly decorated Military Police unit in the United States Army. Activated in September of 1966, the brigade deployed to Vietnam and commanded all non-divisional military police units that deployed to that theater until 1973, when it was inactivated. The Brigade was re-designated on August 16, 1985 and continued to valiantly serve our nation on numerous deployments.

The 18th Military Police Brigade took part in ten campaigns and was awarded four meritorious unit commendations and streamers. The brigade was also awarded the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm for its outstanding service.

Demonstrating its rapid deployability and ability to support V Corps and U.S. Army, Europe contingency operations, every unit within the 18th Military Police Brigade deployed to the Balkans in 1999. The 92 Military Police Company, followed by the 527th MP CO deployed to Sarajevo, Bosnia to provide security in support of SFOR. The 615th MP CO deployed to Albania in April in support of Task Force Hawk. The Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 793d Military Police Battalion and 127th and 630th MP COs deployed in July to Kosovo in support of Task Force Falcon. The Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 18th Military Police Brigade deployed in July to Sarajevo in support of Task Force Summit. The HHD, 709th MP Bn and 92d and 212th MP COs deployed in November to Kosovo in support of Task Force Falcon. While in Kosovo, the battalions were the first-ever Military Police battalions to conduct joint peacekeeping operations in general support of Russian, Greek, Jordanian, and Polish maneuver battalions.

In support of Operation Iraqi Freedom I, the 18th MP BDE crossed the 'berm' into Iraq on March 22, 2003 and established Enemy Prisoner of War Holding Areas for over 3,600 EPWs and conducted Main Supply Route patrolling over 2,500 kilometers in southern Iraq. The Brigade entered Baghdad in April 2003 and began the monumental task of establishing a new Iraqi Police Service and rebuilding Iraqi police stations. From the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom until February 2004 the Brigade provided command and control for seven MP battalions, one Mechanized Infantry battalion, 30 MP companies, and two Law and Order detachments. The Brigade's MPs conducted over 24,000 combat patrols, apprehended over 2,400 criminals; confiscated 7,500 illegal weapons; and trained over 10,000 Iraqi police officers.

Currently, the 127th and 630th MP COs are serving in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. Additionally, the HHC, 18th MP BDE and HHD, 793rd MP BN are gearing up to deploy to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III; the 92nd and 212th MP COs are also preparing for deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom VI.

In addition to the 18th MP BDE's support to the War on Terrorism, on point in Iraq and Afghanistan, many "Ever Vigilant" Soldiers continually conduct law enforcement and force protection duties in communities located throughout Central Region (Europe), ensuring the Soldiers and families of these communities are assisted, protected, and defended at all times.

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